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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 002438

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DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/NCE MICHELLE LABONTE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/05/2016 TAGS: <u>KDEM</u> <u>PREL</u> <u>PGOV</u> <u>PTER</u> <u>MOPS</u>

SUBJECT: HUNGARY'S REACTION TO DEMARCHE ON PRESERVING THE

DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON

REF: SECSTATE 193090

Classified By: POL/C Eric Gaudiosi. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) POLOFF delivered reftel demarche points to MFA Middle East and Africa Territorial Department Deputy Head Peter Kveck and Middle East section head Sandor Keseru on Friday, 1 December. Mr. Kveck acknowledged receipt of the points and said that the MFA would like to review the non-paper points "for a few days" before issuing a formal position. In informal discussion, Mr. Kveck and Mr. Keseru indicated that the GOH is particularly "concerned over the situation" in Lebanon because "all of the Hungarian nationals" that previously evacuated Lebanon "have now returned." According to Kveck, the Ambassador and all diplomatic personnel have also returned to Beirut and are closely monitoring all events related to the Hamas sponsored rallies over the past weekend. Kveck condemned the assassination of Minister Gemael, but offered no concrete actions by the GOH to pressure the Government of Syria at this time. Following multiple attempts through December 5, no person from the Middle East and Africa Territorial Department has yet been available for further comment. FOLEY